

Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (DVBE) Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes, Thursday, May 24, 2005
Medal of Honor Hall
California Department of Veterans Affairs
1227 O Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

Participants

DVBE Advisory Council Members:

Larry Brooks, Gene Farnsworth, Don Gonneville, Robert Brown on behalf of Michael Johnson, Floyd Knox, Bob Mulz, Kevin O'Connor, Michael O'Connor, James Stanfield, Timothy Voors, Robert Yaap

California Department of Veterans Affairs (CDVA)

Roger Brautigan, Agency Undersecretary
Ralph Cansimbe, Operations Manager, Veterans Services Division
Tom Johnson, Agency Secretary
Jack Kirwan, Statewide DVBE Advocate, Veterans Services Division
Joy Rowan, DVBE Outreach Coordinator, Veterans Services Division

Department of General Services (DGS)

Gloria Anderson, Compliance Manager, Office of Small Business and DVBE Certification
Robin Borden, Certification Manager, Office of Small Business and DVBE Certification
Patti Connor, Outreach Manager, Office of Small Business and DVBE Certification
Mariel Dennis, Chief, Office of Small Business and DVBE Certification
Lori Okamoto, SB/DVBE Resources Administrator

Absent DVBE Advisory Council Members

Allen Amaro, Alison Boyle, Kevin O'Connor, Francis Trottier, Larry Turner

Guests

Copy of guest sign-in available upon request.

The Legislation and Outreach Sub-Committees met from 8:30am-10:00am.

Welcome and Introductions

10:05 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance
Moment of silence for John Rak, former council member
Council members and guests introduced themselves.
Robert Brown is attending on behalf of Mike Johnson.

Acknowledge Tom Johnson, Secretary, and Roger Brautigan, Undersecretary, of CDVA.

Approval of Minutes ~ March 17, 2005

Motion: Farnsworth, 2nd motion: Yaap ~ Unanimous

Business Items

10:10 am

Council's Biographical Information

Jack Kirwan

Format will be sent out. Council uses information to ensure all geographical/industries are represented.
Operating guidelines outline the membership criteria and member application process.

DGS: Legislation, Regulations, & Statewide DVBE Report

Mariel Dennis (no handouts)

Reciprocity Program~ website page developed, www.pd.dgs.ca.gov/smbus, link to reciprocity
Small Business Council web page developed, located at same website, includes subcommittee information
DVBE Regulations ~ New Staff Manager Melodie Cato will be working on them

Senator Morrow

Chairman of the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee

Jack provided overview/advisory role of Council. Don provided history of Council.

Senator's comments: Thank you for the invitation. Supports veterans and the DVBE program.

Recognizes the Council as an advisory board and welcomes any advice to share with colleagues.

Advocate the program by meeting the legislature, as a group or individually, build relationships. Put a face and a smile forward for the organization.

Senator will look into possible hearing regarding DVBE participation.

Acknowledge Ron Joseph, Director, and Rita Hamilton, Deputy Director, of DGS.

Commercially Useful Function (CUF) and DVBE Certification Status

Don Gonneville

Mariel and Debra Fraga-Decker discussed progress regarding roll out of CUF. Discussed options of certifying SB/DVBE's as meeting CUF. Meeting with various stakeholders and discussing implementation issues. Possible workshop focused on CUF to be developed and offered to state procurement staff. Certification pending status may be replaced with an extension until the certification is completely reviewed.

Council members~ Discussed different aspects of CUF (services vs. commodities, possibility of creating peer review committee for those DVBE's denied because they did not meet the requirements of CUF, suggestion to tighten language, acknowledged workload of DGS, depth of reviews, rehabilitative aspect of program, concept of DVBE as a burden to state buyers, and DVBE program as a stepping stone) Mariel is open to working with DVBE community regarding CUF policies/procedures.

Motion. Larry Brooks: Council go on record as in favor of establishment of a peer review process/committee to participate in review of decertifications or denials if the person opts to go with the peer review. For instance, if I'm being decertified, then I can ask for the peer review. The motion is to go on record as favoring and establishing that process.

2nd Motion: Robert Brown

Discussion: Note the committee will be acting in an advisory capacity.

Unanimous

Ca. Strategic Sourcing Initiative

Terese Butler, Project Director

Project description and update, discussed upcoming key contract dates

Any questions, visit www.pd.dgs.ca.gov/stratsourcing

Lunch 12:00- 1:00pm

Discussion Items

1:05 pm

Parks and Recreation Advocate Presentation

Cathy Croly~ SB/DVBE Advocate (handout)

Discussed participation numbers for 03/04 and how to do business with Parks and Rec.

Committee Reports

Legislative Chairperson, Robert Yaap

Pending legislation

Want input from entire council on Good Faith Effort (GFE)

Do we want to push the legislature to get rid of the GFE or keep it?

Input: provide incentives for using DVBEs and keep GFE

trade and focus paper may see increase under current legislation

SB 115 – as read may mean over \$3 million, beneficial not to use DVBE's

Tighten review of GFE by state buyers

Weighting the participation percentage in the evaluation process

Timeframe for DVBE's to respond to bidder's solicitations to participate

Outreach Chairperson, Gene Farnsworth

DGS events website- includes links to all outreach listed below ~ www.pd.dgs.ca.gov/recipro/events.htm

National Veterans Small Business Conference~ June20-22, 2005

Riverside Procurement Technical Assistance Center~ June 2, 2005

Business Connection, Pomona University~ August 10, 2005

DGS is targeting training classes for all CSU's regarding SB/DVBE participation

Resource Exchange, DGS~ Sacramento, July 7, 2005

National Convention of Small Disabled Veteran Businesses, San Diego, August 31-Sept. 2

Small Business Council, DGS~ Sacramento, June 22, 2005

Please share dates and information with your networks.

Encourage networks to watch CSSI and watch for eRFP's being released

Reciprocity and its benefits, please send any new potential partners to lori.okamoto@dgs.ca.gov

Develop partnerships before solicitations are released

Discussion on development of a pamphlet or electronic newsletter for outreach purposes.

Procurement Chairperson, Bob Mulz

No report, will work on recruiting members

State Agency Chairperson, Floyd Knox

No report

Council Forum Member Issues And Reports

Bob Mulz- Renaming the DVBE Program, will take back to procurement committee, each member to discuss with their networks

Gene Farnsworth-- Any pending applications to serve on the council.

Don Gonneville- holding meetings throughout the state, town hall meetings, DVBE recruitment and will mention council, may be an avenue to identify potential council members

Jack Kirwan - Will spearhead working with DGS to create a 2-3 hour orientation for advocates

Public Comments- None

Brooke T. Guthrie – Oakland Port Authority's awareness of the DVBE program, Los Rios Community College perspective of DVBEs, interested in starting San Francisco network, difficulty in setting up an appointment to process DVBE certification paperwork, certification paperwork does not identify that state certification can not be issued in one day, women veterans seeking certification

Monika Frenz- Thank you to Gloria Anderson for her assistance in becoming certified.

Next meeting July 21,2005

Adjournment

3:00 pm

Any questions, please contact:

Joy Rowan or Stewart Mackenzie

DVBE Outreach and Education Coordinators

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